REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as currently amended in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 9, 15, 21, 29, 35, 41, 48, and 55 are currently active in this case. Claims 1, 21, 41, and 55 have been amended by the current amendment. No new matter has been added. See page 11 lines 10-18 and Figure 3 of the Specification.

Claims 1, 2, 9, 15, 21, 22, 29, 35, 41, 48, 55, and 56 have been allowed. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Notice of Allowance. However, Applicants have amended the active independent claims to further clarify their invention. The art of record is not believed to anticipate or render obvious the subject matter of the active claims as amended. Consequently, no further issues remain and Applicants respectfully request an early and favorable action.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Gregory J. Maier Attorney of Record

Registration No. 25,599

W. Todd Baker Registration No. 45,265

Customer Number 22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 06/04)